

Citizens Liaison Committee to Community Center
November 30, 2006 – Hydrangea Room, TP Community Center, 7500 Maple Ave.

Members present:

Howard Kohn, Juanita Kus-Lorentz, Andy Keleman, Dave Lorentz, Erik Lichtenberg,, Karen Mendez, Ray Scannell, Paul Chrostowski, Lorraine Pearsall, Richard Levine and Cindy Dyballa.

By consensus we agreed that our objective is to build an affordable gym where children and adults can participate in a range of physical activities even if that means eliminating certain amenities normally associated with a gym.

We also agreed by consensus to make the following recommendations to the City Council:

1. We believe it's important to collect more data before deciding on any option for a gym.
2. We do not support a gym project that will cost in the range of \$6-to-8 million or higher.
3. Rather than obtaining a cost estimate for a wish list of items we believe the City should put a ceiling of \$3.5 million on the project and determine what sort of gym can be built for that amount (all related costs included) in a location adjacent to the community center. *
4. Because almost all gyms in Montgomery County are built by the school system we recommend the City consult with their architects and contractors to investigate whether our project can be more cost-effective. This should happen before deciding on any option.
5. We would also like to request that our committee be given an opportunity to continue to meet with the ANCL designers and City staff so our input can be included prior to any decisions.

* Note: We would like to find out what savings can be achieved by building a gym on a slab set on pillars. We recommend reducing the size and weight of the gym to eliminate underground excavation (except for the pillars) and minimize other site work. The gym belonging to Takoma Park Presbyterian Church might serve as a model.